

### **Eltron's Refractory Coated Portable Helipad Technology Awarded Phase I Option from the Army**

**September 9, 2013—**

BOULDER - Eltron Research and Development Inc. in Boulder, Colorado has received notice that their Refractory Coated Portable Helipad technology has been awarded a Phase I Option from the Army's SBIR program.

The Phase I Option is gap funding between the Phase I and Phase II projects. The Phase II project should be awarded in the first quarter of 2014.

Eltron has developed a new type of heat resistant portable helipad that is required for future helicopter and vertical takeoff and landing aircraft. Current solutions are unsuitable for use by aircraft like the V-22 which is becoming more widely used due to its long range and high speed relative to helicopters. In Phase I, mat materials polyester, polyethylene, polypropylene, fire-retardant structural fiberglass, and high temperature structural fiberglass were coated with Eltron's refractory composite coating which prevented ignition and reduced weight loss when exposed to 343°C (650°F) for 20 minutes. None of the uncoated mat materials could withstand the thermal exposure requirements without weight loss or discoloration.

In Phase II, Eltron will refine the coating method for scale-up, coat prototype full size mats, validate the prototype for technical requirements, and perform a techno-economic analysis. The refractory coating should retain excellent corrosion and weather resistance, ease of installation and ground preparation, and superior dust suppression capability of conventional mats.